



COMMUNITY BOARD 11
1741 COLDEN AVENUE
BRONX, NY 10462
(718) 892-6262
www.nyc.gov/bronxcb11

Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson
Chair Cynthia Rodriguez
District Manager Jeremy H. Warneke

COMMITTEES

Leadership
Bylaws & Ethics
Community Development & Budget Priorities
Economic Development & Public Safety
Education, Culture & Youth Services
Health & Social Services
Housing
Land Use
Parks & Recreation
Sanitation & Environmental Protection
Transportation

Website



Website

Education, Culture & Youth Services Committee Meeting
Thursday, September 4, 2025
7:00 p.m.
Community Board 11 Office
1741 Colden Avenue
Webex Meetings
[YouTube](#)

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

1. Introductions
2. Review of Meeting Minutes
Final versions of the May and June minutes were approved for publication.
3. Presentation from Bronx PEP (Panel for Educational Policy) Representative Brenida Parsons about new cell phone policy in schools
 - a. B. Parsons is the former CEC (Community Education Council) 10 President
 - b. The phone policy continues to change as more parents get involved in shaping a more responsive protocol to facilitate a distraction free zone
 - c. Engaged with many parents about how parents can get in contact with students at school despite the ban
 - d. Streamlining communication between schools and parents when emergencies happen
 - e. Advocating for continued use of open communication between schools and home
 - f. Excited to amplify the voices and showcase the brilliance of Bronx students and families
 - g. What does being a Bronx PEP member mean? Voted on by CEC leaders as a representative for the entirety of the Bronx
 - h. What does the PEP Do? Engage, communicate, and advocate for the needs of the community with the City officials
 - i. They work together to be a voice a families of public school students
4. Presentation from Prep for Prep admissions officer Sinai Cruz
 - a. Free program for Title 1 students to attend (financial aid provided)
 - o 5th and 6th grade students private schools

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- o 7th graders go to boarding schools
 - b. Looking for students who are currently excelling so that they can thrive in the program
 - o Types of questions for prospective students: Are they motivated? Do they care about others?
 - c. Free resources for Prom and other extra curriculums so students are not alienated from peers
 - d. Post-placement support after graduation
 - e. They provide leadership opportunities in college that include internships
 - f. 5 students were accepted from CB11 (Community Board 11)
 - g. 1000 applicants on average for 125 slots for 5th/6th grade, 75 for 7th grade
 - h. Info sessions for parents and schools
5. Committee chair election
 Dierre nominated Alex for Chair.
 Lisa seconded the motion.
 Alex accepted and was confirmed to serve until next September.
6. Discuss committee goals for upcoming year
 Do we want other officers such as a secretary. Yes, Dierre will be Secretary of the Committee.
 Goals
- a. Expand our committee
 - b. Yankee Youth Leadership Award: Get started earlier
 - c. Survey
 - i. We did not get any responses
 - ii. Target a different leader within the school organization that might be able to support
 - iii. Tweak for parent coordinators
 - d. Veronica Arts Media wanted a letter of support for a grant
7. Old Business
 Van Cortlandt House Museum Tour
- a. Really interesting, historical things there
 - b. “Feels equivalent to being in the Met.” Alex
 - c. “An authentic experience of walking through history.” Cynthia
 - d. All in all, A BLAST
 - e. Dierre will reach out to see if we can organize an additional tour for the Fall
8. New Business
 The Board Chair and Manager have a meeting scheduled with the Mosholu Montefiore Community Center, which operates a few youth programs in our jurisdiction. They are opening a new program called a Family Enrichment Center for CB11.

The meeting ended at 8:23 p.m.

Minutes and edits by D. Taylor, C. Rodriguez, further edits and formatting by staff.

Conduct Statement

Community Board 11 meetings must be held in a professional and hostile-free environment.

The following rules of conduct are applicable to members of the public, Community Board 11 and Community Board 11 staff:

- Any action or behavior that disrupts or interferes with Community Board 11 business will not be tolerated during any Community Board 11 meeting and may result in the individual(s) being asked to leave. If the action or behavior continues, this may be considered disturbing the peace, and the appropriate authorities may be summoned. If the meeting is held remotely, the person may be muted or expelled for the remainder.
- Repeated violations by the same person or group of people may result in further action by the Community Board.
- All public speakers must address the Full Board or the Committee with their concerns.
- Electioneering for a position other than an officer of Community Board 11 is prohibited.
- Engaging in acts of violence (including threats) are grounds for immediate suspension of the right to attend meetings, pending review by the Ethics and Disciplinary committee.
- Respect the equality, diversity and privacy of all people by respecting and valuing differences of culture and opinion.
- Refrain from unpleasant or disparaging remarks and other actions.
- Abstain from all forms of harassment by actively discouraging it.
- Disseminating false information is prohibited.

	Name	4-Sep	1-Oct	5-Nov	7-Jan	4-Feb	4-Mar	1-Apr	6-May	3-Jun
1	Alex Ellefson, Chair	I								
2	Wendy Hewlett-Betts	E								
3	Susan Perez	E								
4	Dierre Taylor	I								
5	Lisa Velella	I								
Total Is (In-person attendees):		3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total present:		3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Key

A - Absent E - Excused I - In-person attendance na - Not applicable nm - No meeting R - Remote attendance